

12-21-04
EV 4317349629 US

IPW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/662,206
Filing Date: September 12, 2003
Applicant: Rodney H. Thomas
Group Art Unit: 3635
Examiner: Nahid Amiri
Title: COVERS, SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR COVERING DECK COMPONENTS
Attorney Docket: 9847-000005/US

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

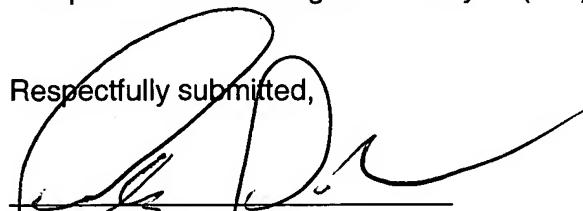
In response to the Office Action mailed December 9, 2004, Applicant respectfully elects the species identified in FIG. 7 and claims 1-4, 7-14, and 16-23 that read on this species.

Applicant further submits that independent claims 1, 8, and 17 are generic to at least FIGS. 3, 5, 6, and 7. Applicant therefore submits that all of claims 1-23 should be examined and that the species that are generic to independent claims 1, 8, and 17 should be considered.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned directly at (314) 726-7502.

Dated: December 20, 2004

Respectfully submitted,


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PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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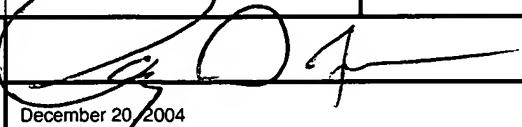
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	10/662,206
		Filing Date	September 12, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Rodney H. Thomas
		Art Unit	3635
		Examiner Name	Nahid Amiri
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	
		9847-000005US	

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

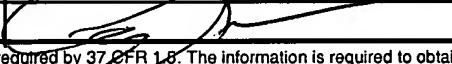
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	Response to Restriction Requirement
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	Return Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Harnes, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name	Reg. No.
Signature			
Date	December 20, 2004		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

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Typed or printed name	Anthony G. Fussner	Express Mail Label No.	EV 317349629US
Signature		Date	December 20, 2004

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